

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 13th December 1890.

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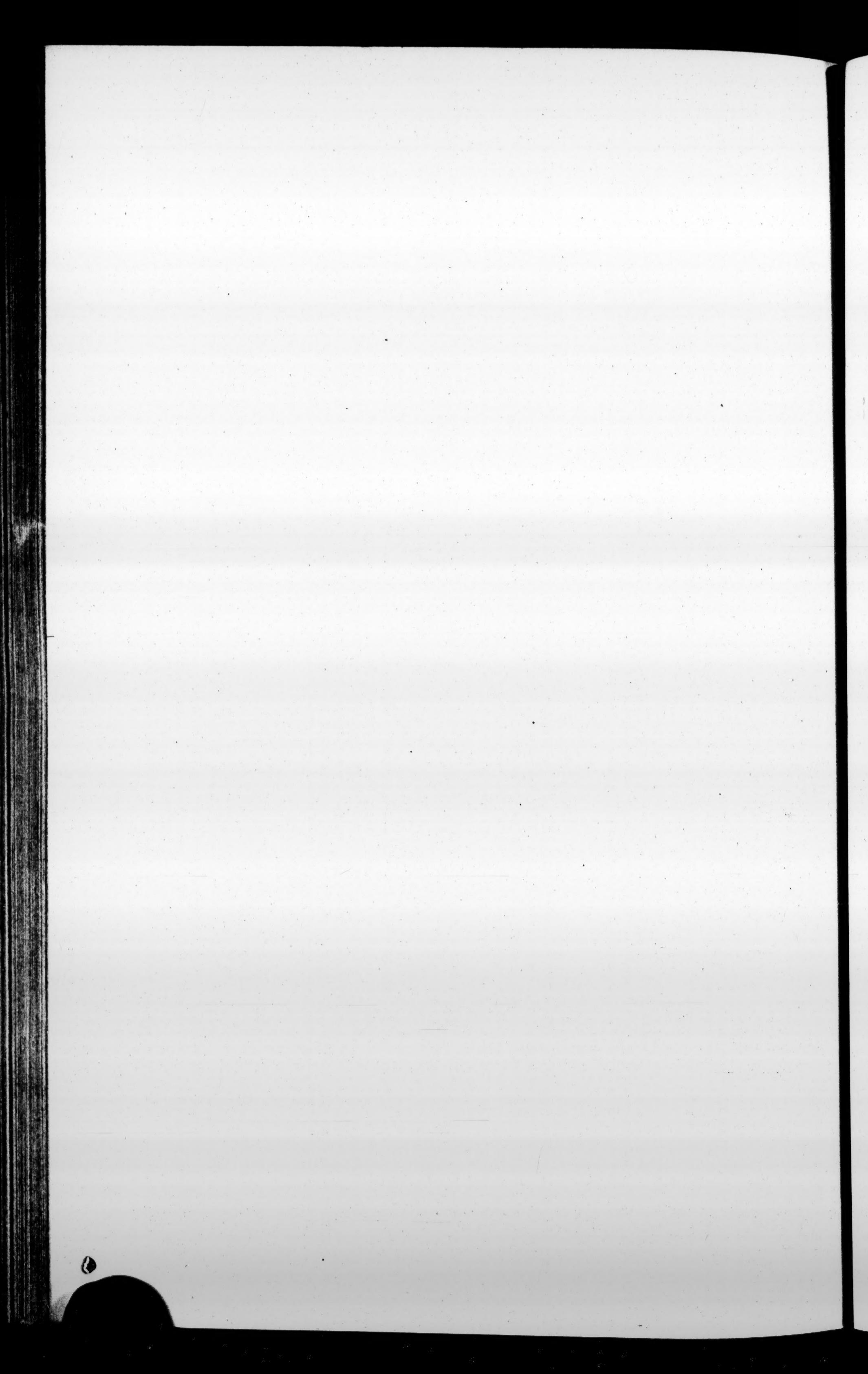
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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
1	" Ahammádi "	... ... Tangail, Mymensingh	450	
2	" Hitakari "	... ... Kushtea	30	30th November 1890.
3	" Kasipore Nibási "	... ... Kasipore, Burrisal	.....	For the first fortnight of Agraháyan 1297 B.E.
4	" Navamihir "	... ... Ghatail, Mymensingh	.....	30th November 1890.
5	" Sahayogi "	... ... Burrisal	....
6	" Uluberia Darpan "	... ... Uluberia	....	30th ditto.
<i>Weekly.</i>				
7	" Arya Darpan "	... ... Calcutta	102	1st December 1890.
8	" Bangavási "	... ... Ditto	20,000	6th ditto.
9	" Banganibási "	... ... Ditto	.....	5th ditto.
10	" Burdwan Sanjivání "	... ... Burdwan	302	2nd ditto.
11	" Chárvártá "	... ... Sherepore, Mymensingh	500	1st ditto.
12	" Dacca Prakásh "	... ... Dacca	1,200	7th ditto.
13	" Education Gazette "	... ... Hooghly	885	5th ditto.
14	" Gramvási "	... ... Ramkristopore, Howrah	800	7th ditto.
15	" Hindu Ranjiká "	... ... Beauleah, Rajshahye	300	
16	" Murshidábád Pratinidhi "	... ... Berhampore	.....
17	" Navayuga "	... ... Calcutta	.....	4th ditto.
18	" Pratikár "	... ... Berhampore	600	5th ditto.
19	" Rungpore Dikprakásh "	... ... Kakinia, Rungpore	.....	27th November and 4th Dec. 1890.
20	" Sahachar "	... ... Calcutta	500	3rd December 1890.
21	" Sakti "	... ... Dacca	.....	2nd ditto.
22	" Samáj-o-Sáhitya "	... ... Garibpore, Nuddea	.....	7th ditto.
23	" Samaya "	... ... Calcutta	3,806	5th ditto.
24	" Sanjivání "	... ... Ditto	4,000	6th ditto.
25	" Sansodhiní "	... ... Chittagong	.....	2th November 1890.
26	" Saráswat Patra "	... ... Dacca	300	
27	" Som Prakásh "	... ... Calcutta	1,000	8th December 1890.
28	" Sudhákár "	... ... Ditto	2,580	27th November 1890.
29	" Sulabh Samvád "	... ... Ditto	.....
30	" Surabhi-o-Patáká "	... ... Ditto	700	28th ditto.
<i>Daily.</i>				
31	" Banga Vidyá Prakáshiká "	... ... Calcutta	500	
32	" Bengal Exchange Gazette "	... ... Ditto	.....	28th November, 2nd and 4th to 9th December 1890.
33	" Dainik o Samáchár Chandriká "	... ... Ditto	1,500	2nd, 8th and 9th December 1890.
34	" Samvád Prabhákár "	... ... Ditto	800	
35	" Samvád Purnachandrodaya "	... ... Ditto	300	4th to 6th, 8th and 9th December 1890.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
	ENGLISH AND BENGALI.			
	<i>Weekly.</i>			
36	" Dacca Gazette "	... Dacca	... ....	8th December 1890.
	HINDI.			
	<i>Monthly.</i>			
37	" Darjeeling Mission ke Másik Samáchár Patrika."	Darjeeling	... 20	
38	" Kshatriya Patriká "	Patna	... 200	
	<i>Weekly.</i>			
39	" Aryávarta "	Calcutta	... 800	
40	" Behar Bandhu "	Bankipore	... ....
41	" Bhárat Mitra "	Calcutta	... 1,853	
42	" Champarun Chandrika "	Bettiah	... ....
43	" Desí Vyápári "	Calcutta	... ....
44	" Sár Sudhánidhi "	Ditto	... 500	
45	" Uchit Baktá "	Ditto	... 4,500	
	PERSIAN.			
	<i>Weekly.</i>			
46	" Jáum-Jahánomah "	Calcutta	... 250	
	URDU.			
	<i>Weekly.</i>			
47	" Aftal Alum Arrah "	Arrah	... 300	
48	" Al Punch "	Bankipore	... ....
49	" Anis "	Patna	... ....
50	" Gauhur "	Calcutta	... 196	
51	" Raisul-Akhbari-Moorshidabad "	Murshidabad	... ....
52	" Urdu Guide and Darussaltanat "	Calcutta	... 340	
	URIYA.			
	<i>Monthly.</i>			
53	" Asha "	Cuttack	... ....
54	" Pradíp "	Ditto	... ....
55	" Samyabadi "	Ditto	... ....
56	" Taraka and Subhavártá "	Ditto	... ....
	<i>Weekly.</i>			
57	" Dipaka "	Cuttack	... ....
68	" Samvad Váhika "	Balasore	... 205	13th and 20th November 1890.
69	" Urya and Navasamvád "	Ditto	... 600	12th and 19th ditto.
60	" Utkal Dípiká "	Cuttack	... 444	15th and 22nd ditto.
	PAPERS PUBLISHED IN ASSAM.			
	BENGALI.			
	<i>Fortnightly.</i>			
61	" Paridarshak "	Sylhet	... 450	1st December 1890.
62	" Silchar "	Silchar	... 500	



II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

The *Sansodhini*, of the 26th November, requests the police to keep a sharp eye on the Mussulman and Bedia quacks in Chittagong. Quacks from Furreedpore who are making money at the expense of the ignorant people of Chittagong.

SANSODEHINI,
Nov. 26th, 1890.

2. The same paper says that a large number of ships come into the Chittagong port in the winter, and sailors from these ships frequently come into the town and cause disturbance there. Lately during the Durga Puja festival a sailor was causing a breach of the peace in the Chakbazar. The head-constable of the local police being informed of the circumstance, said that he had no authority to arrest a European. But he certainly had authority to prevent a breach of the peace. It is hoped that the authorities will see that such disturbances are not caused by the sailors in future.

SANSODEHINI.

3. A correspondent of the *Sudhákar*, of the 28th November, says that the description of the Bengal Police given in that paper (see R. N. P. for 29th November and 6th December 1890, paragraphs and) is not at all exaggerated. That complaints regarding police administration do not more frequently reach the authorities is due partly to the fact that people in the mofussil are generally ignorant and illiterate, and partly to the circumstance that such complaints against them infuriate the officers of the police, who by way of revenge induce their *protégés*, generally *badmashes* of the locality, to bring false cases against the complainants.

SUDHAKAR,
Nov. 28th, 1890.

As for the corruption of the police and their extortion of the people's money, the following instance will suffice to prove their prevalence:—A man having his son or daughter killed by drowning or snake-bite has hardly time to vent his grief, but that he must shift to collect a handsome amount for the police officers of the local thana for permission to suitably dispose of the dead body. The usual amount demanded by the police on such occasions is Rs. 100. And if the man fails to satisfy the demand, he and his whole family are sure to be committed for trial on a charge of having practised foul play upon the child. Nor do the people of the mofussil escape exaction by the police when the latter come simply on an investigation. Anybody lodging a complaint in the thana must make sumptuous arrangements for the boarding of not only the sub-inspector or the head-constable who comes on the investigation, but also of his very menials; otherwise he will be sharply reprimanded by the officer. In fact, extortion of the people's money by the police has become so enormous that police officers would only be too glad to remain in the service even if Government refused to pay them any salary.

As for the few educated men who are in the police service, it must be said to their credit that it is owing to them only that the police is with all its faults still regarded as the preservers of the public peace. And the corrupt nature of the police will not be changed until a larger number of such men are admitted into its ranks.

4. The Tangail correspondent of the *Hitakari*, of the 30th November, says that great credit is due to the Sub-divisional Officer and the Police Inspector of Tangail in the Mymensingh district for their noble resolution not to allow thieves and *badmashes* to find a resting-place in Tangail. These officers should also direct their attention to the class of men who receive or hide stolen property. These men are to be found among

HITAKARI,
Nov. 30th, 1890.

Bad characters in Tangail in the Mymensingh district.

the *lathials*, the *mahajans*, the shopkeepers, the *zemindars*, and the numerous goldsmiths and silversmiths of the place who have no ostensible means of livelihood.

NAVAYUGA,
Dec. 4th, 1890.

5. The *Navayuga*, of the 4th December, says that while acquitting Nandogopal Nath, the student of the Campbell Medical School, who was charged with theft at the instance of the Sealdah Railway Police, the Joint Magistrate of Sealdah used some words condemning the conduct of the police in connection with the case. But this mild rebuke will have no effect on that police, which is notorious for oppression. The authorities should have a sharp eye over it.

SOM PRAKASH,
Dec. 8th, 1890.

6. The *Som Prakash*, of the 8th December, says that in addition to Raja Pearimohan Mukherjea some other non-officials possessing education and independent judgment should be appointed to the Police Reform Committee.

KASIPORE NIVASI,
First fortnight of
Agrahayan.

7. A correspondent of the *Kasipore Nivasi*, for the first fortnight of Agrahayan, suggests that the police should bind over Kalikumar Datta and Ramcharan Dhupi, the famous *goondahs* of south Gaila in Backergunj, who engage in frequent affrays and were lately sentenced to imprisonment, to keep the peace for a long term.

HITAKARI,
Nov. 30th, 1890.

8. The *Hitakari*, of the 30th November, says that the present First Munsif of Kushtea, Babu Akshay Kumar Sen, has been discharging his duties in a very satisfactory manner. He attends Court punctually, and does not seem anxious to please his superiors by showing a large outturn of work by a hasty disposal of suits. It is hoped that the authorities will not take Babu Akshay Kumar to task for the slow progress of his work. He is extremely anxious to do justice in the cases that come before him. The strictness of Babu Akshay Kumar in striking off suits when the parties are not present at the appointed time is quite excusable.

HITAKARI.

The Independent Bench of Tangail in the Mymensingh district.

9. A correspondent of the same paper complains of the negligence of the Honorary Magistrates constituting the Independent Bench of Tangail in regularly attending court and also of the perfunctory way in which they appear to discharge their duties.

BANGAVASI,
Dec. 6th, 1890.

10. The *Bangavasi*, of the 6th December, makes a comparison between the judgments passed by the High Court in the appeals preferred to that Court by the German Missionary Father Cus and by Gopalananda Swami of Benares.

The High Court and the appeals in the cases of Father Cus and Gopalananda Swami of Benares respectively. In the case of Father Cus the Hon'ble Judges hunted up every extenuating circumstance that could justify them in passing a lenient sentence upon him. For instance, their Lordships said that the fact of Father Cus being a new-comer to the country, his ignorance of its laws, and his unconsciousness of the seriousness of the consequences his act might lead to, were circumstances which justified them in passing a lenient sentence; while in the Benares case their Lordships of the same Court found in the fact of the prisoner having acted under religious zeal, however laudable such zeal may be, a circumstance warranting them in upholding the very severe sentence passed upon the prisoner. Will their Lordships condescend to compare their judgments in these two cases and then say if all this is calculated to augment or diminish the people's faith in the High Court as the highest court of appeal in the land?

11. The *Som Prakásh*, of the 8th December, is unable to approve of the ground on which the Calcutta High Court has refused to interfere in the case of Gopalananda Swami's case.

Gopalananda Swami, namely, that since the Magistrate is responsible for the maintenance of peace in his district, the High Court ought not to interfere in such matters. This is a ground which can be urged only in the case of an unsettled district. It is not also easy to see why the decision of the lower court has not been set aside when no offence was found against the Swami personally.

SOM PRAKASH
Dec. 8th, 1890.

(c)—*Jails.*

12. The same paper, of the 8th December, cannot agree with Government in thinking that the terrible mortality

The high mortality in the Bengal jails. in the Bengal jails in 1889, which, in spite of the absence of infant mortality among the

jail population and of the fact that those who are sent to jail are generally strong men, was nearly twice as high as that outside jails, can be explained by the weak and emaciated condition of the criminals sent to prison that year in consequence of scarcity of food and by unhealthy accommodation and bad sanitary arrangements. As for the first circumstance, it must equally affect mortality within and without jails. Nor is it shown that scarcity of food has any effect on jail mortality, because mortality in jails was high in 1880-81 in spite of a good harvest and not so high in 1888 as in the year under question, though the harvest was bad that year also. Nor can the validity of the plea as regards unhealthy accommodation, &c., be admitted when it is remembered that the prisoners who are generally poor men are better fed and housed and receive better medical aid in jails than in their own homes. The real cause of the mortality is to be sought in insufficient feeding of the prisoners due to the delegation of the charge of food-supply to a chain of contractors, each of whom must make some profit, in heavy work and merciless beating, the existence of which latter causes is admitted by the Government of India in its report for 1887. The right way to remedy the present evil will be to give the prisoners better food and lighter work and less rigorous treatment and to appoint men of heart and character as jail officers and noble-minded men of independent views as jail-inspectors.

SOM PRAKASH,
Dec. 8th, 1890.

(d)—*Education.*

13. The *Cháruvártá*, of the 1st December, says that want of Govern-

Government and Bengali literature.

ment encouragement and the people's loss of political independence are two of the principal

causes which retard the growth and development of Bengali literature. The various stringent laws of the English Government have robbed the people of their national life. The authorities have left no stone unturned to efface all signs of nationality even from schools and school-books. Matters, however, were much better before Sir Alfred Croft's time. It is rumoured that a civilian is to succeed Sir Alfred as Director of Public Instruction. The school-books will, in that case, be made to contain nothing but scientific lessons on the sun, the moon, the eclipses, and so forth. But for all that, and notwithstanding the diffusion of English education among the Bengalis, they will gradually come to possess a national life, and the temporary injury done to Bengali literature by the present foreign system of education will be fully repaired.

CHARUVARTA,
Dec. 1st, 1890.

14. A correspondent of the *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 2nd December,

The lower primary examination in the district of Burdwan. says that great inconvenience is felt by the examinees appearing at the lower primary examination held within the jurisdiction of the Rayna thana in the district of Burdwan, in consequence of that examination being held in mid-winter.

BURDWAN SANJIVAN
Dec. 2nd, 1890.

During the days in which the examination is held, boys of tender years, mostly suffering from malaria, have to leave their homes and stay among strangers. Their teachers, as well as the guards who superintend the examination, also suffer from malaria during the cold weather. It is therefore desirable that the days for holding the examination should be fixed at the end of the month of Falguna (middle of March).

NAVAYUGA,
Dec. 4th, 1890.

15. The Navayuga, of the 4th December, approves of the proposal of Government to amalgamate the Hindu and Hare Schools, and says that the amalgamation in question should have been effected long ago, for it was a mistake to allow two Government institutions of the same nature to exist side by side. The amalgamation will result in a saving of Rs. 10,000 to Government. And instead of withdrawing this sum from the education grant, Government should utilise it by increasing the number of junior and senior scholarships, which is very small in comparison with the number of schools and the successful students turned out by them.

SAMAYA,
Dec. 5th, 1890.

16. The Samaya, of the 5th December, hopes that there is no truth in the rumour that, on the retirement of Sir Alfred Croft from office, Sir Charles Elliott will appoint a Civilian as Director of Public Instruction. It is not to be supposed that directly after his elevation to the throne of Bengal, Sir Charles will do such an odious act. Even a man with such an experience of educational work as Sir Alfred Croft has committed many errors. It would therefore be most unwise to appoint an inexperienced Civilian to that responsible post. Again, Civilians are enemies to the high education of natives, and if therefore a Civilian is appointed as Director he will ruin the Education Department on the plea of reduction of expenditure.

SAMAYA.

17. The same paper says that the remark made by Sir Alfred Croft in his last Education Report, to the effect that the falling off in the number of students in the Hooghly College, and its proximity to Calcutta, render its maintenance unnecessary, seems to imply that he intends to abolish that College. But there are reasons to suspect that the falling off in the number of students is due to unsatisfactory teaching, and not to the proximity of the College to Calcutta. The abolition of the College will also be objectionable on the ground that it is a memorial of its founder Muhammad Mosheim.

BANGAVASI,
Dec. 6th, 1890.

18. The Bangavasi, of the 6th December, says that on the evening of the 26th November last, Baboo Pratap Chandra Mazumdar informed the inmates of the Hindu Hostel that in a few days they would be compelled to put up with students of the Subarnavanik caste. Did Sir Alfred Croft give Baboo Pratap Chandra permission to visit the Hostel with the view of bringing such tidings to its inmates?

At his visit to the Hostel on the 3rd December last, Baboo Pratap Chandra tried, as at his first visit, to win over the students to his own faith, and addressed to them moral lessons repugnant alike to Hindu Shastras and to Hindu customs. It is time that the authorities should put a stop to these visits of Baboo Pratap Chandra to the Hindu Hostel.

BANGAVASI.

19. The same paper says that the Madras Manual of Geography The text-book on Geography for the appointed for the Entrance Examination of Entrance Examination, 1893. 1893, being made an alternative text-book with another work on the subject, it now only remains for the heads of schools in which Hindu youths are trained up to see that the other text-book and not the Madras Manual is read in their schools.

BANGAVASI.

20. The same paper says that, considering that there are so many good colleges in Calcutta which is not very distant from Hooghly, a question has arisen as to the probable abolition of the Hooghly College.

advisability of maintaining the Hooghly College. The educational policy of Government has proved a great success, inasmuch as it has succeeded in producing among the people a thirst for English education. Government may now safely withdraw from the work of English education in this country. The Congressists should note the difference between Government's policy and that of their own which is winning them a bad name only.

21. The *Sanjivani*, of the 6th December, approves of the proposed abolition of the Hindu School in Calcutta and of the Hooghly College. There is no necessity of maintaining a College in Hooghly, as there are

The proposed abolition of the Hindu School and the Hooghly College.
plenty of colleges in Calcutta and one in Utterpara. But Government is doing wrong by neglecting the Rajshahye College, which is the only College in the whole of North Bengal.

22. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 7th December, cannot flatter itself that education is making rapid progress in Bengal and that the Bengalis are immensely superior

to the people of other Indian provinces in point of education. The education which is now being given in Bengal is not the right sort of education, but only a genteelising process. The English Government looks upon the Brahmin and the Chandal with the same eye, and it is doing immense injury to the country by levelling up the lower strata of society without arranging for others taking their place. As a result of this genteelising process, hundreds of peasant youths are forsaking every year their ancestral occupation in this agricultural Bengal, and yet Government does not spend a single pice for agricultural improvement.

A glance at the text-books used in the primary schools will show what little thought is spent in the organising of that education. The students of those schools are taught botany—a subject which few teachers in the mofussil can teach and a knowledge of which few students can turn to account—and the physical features of every country but that on whose soil and climate depend their life and sustenance, and this in spite of chronic scarcity in the country. Government can do much good by introducing into this country the new modes of agriculture discovered in Europe. But it is not at all anxious to do this. Government is gradually reducing the expenditure on high education, and throwing the burden on the pack-horses of Municipalities and District Boards. It has now become a little more anxious about primary education, but it is yet too early to judge of its results.

23. The *Bengal Exchange Gazette*, of the 8th December, approves of The Viceroy's decision with regard to the Viceroy's action in upholding the decision of the Senate with regard to the Ripon College,

and says that the Syndicate has been rightly snubbed.

24. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandriká*, of the 8th December, says that Babu Pratap Chandra Majumdar Hindu parents send their boys to the Hindu at the Hindu Hostel. Hostel in order that they may be enabled to prosecute their studies properly and may not go astray. The boarders should be brought up here in the Hindu style. It is not easy to see how Babu Pratap Chandra Majumdar, who is a social outcaste and apostate in the eye of all Hindus, can set himself up as a moral teacher of these students. Government is now anxious about the morality of students, no matter whether that morality be good or bad. And this has given those who are grossly licentious, whose beverage is wine, who seldom make any distinction between right and wrong, who do not support their parents and look upon brothers and sisters as having no claims upon them, and who nevertheless clamour for morality, an opportunity to pose as moral teachers. The examples of sublime morality which Babu Pratap Chandra held up to the gaze of the Hostel students are Babus Rammohun Roy, Ramtanu Lahiri and Keshub

SANJIVANI,
Dec. 6th, 1890.

DACCA PRAKASH,
Dec. 7th, 1890.

BENGAL EXCHANGE
GAZETTE,
Dec. 8th, 1890.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Dec. 8th, 1890.

Chunder Sen, and John Bright calmly eating oranges in the presence of spectators while being drawn in a coach and eight through Birmingham and receiving ovations from thousands of people. But these are not the right examples of morality to hold up before Hindu students. Government should, under these circumstances, forbid Babu Pratap Chandra to lecture at the Hostel, or Hindu parents will be compelled to remove their sons therefrom.

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

ULUBERIA DARPAH,
Nov. 30th, 1890.

25. The *Uluberia Darpan*, of the 30th November, refers to the decision of the Civil Surgeon of Howrah to abolish the Uluberia Hospital on account of the unsatisfactory collection of subscriptions, and says that the mismanagement in the hospital, which remains unremedied for want of proper inspection by the Managing Committee, and above all the personal unpopularity of the present Medical Officer, Babu Kunjabihari Nandi, are the causes of the present unsatisfactory state of its finances. The Babu is very irregular in his attendance at hospital, and does not see the patients as carefully as he ought to. He also mixes himself up with local cliques and is a tale-bearer. For some reason or other, no Sub-divisional Officer has hitherto attended to complaints against the Babu. It is to be hoped that the present Sub-divisional Officer will try to remedy these evils instead of abolishing the Hospital all at once.

SAHACHAR,
Dec. 3rd, 1890.

26. The *Sahachar*, of the 3rd December, is glad to learn from the Lieutenant-Governor's Resolution on the working of the Municipalities in Bengal that Magistrates and Commissioners of divisions have rendered

The working of the Municipalities in Bengal.
much help to those bodies. Reference is made to the assessment of the municipal rates in the mofussil, and it is remarked that as houses there do not fetch any rent, it is very improper to tax them. The tax on houses in the mofussil is therefore no better than a disguised form of the income-tax. At present it is the Chairmen who assess the municipal rates in most municipalities. But as their impartiality in the matter of assessment is frequently questioned, it is very desirable that appeals from the assessments made by them should lie to the Magistrates of districts. The charge laid by the Lieutenant-Governor at the door of the municipalities, namely, that they spend their education grants solely for the benefit of English schools, is not true, for the Municipal Commissioners have always spent their allotments on education according to the need and the wishes of the municipal rate payers. It is, of course, desirable that education should spread among the lower strata of society, but in this matter the sole responsibility cannot with justice be thrown on the shoulders of municipalities.

SAHACHAR.

27. The same paper says that, according to the *Lancet*, incinerators like those of Mr. Harington were introduced in London also; but as smoke and gas escaping from them produced typhoid, cancer of the throat, and other serious diseases, they had to be abandoned. Mr. Harington says that, in deference to the criticism in the press, he has caused the height of the chimney attached to his incinerator to be increased from 130 to 200 feet. But then the same expedient was tried in London also to no purpose. It is hoped that the Commissioners of the Calcutta Municipality will not allow themselves to be deceived by a few selfish Europeans and sacrifice the money and the health of the townspeople to Mr. Harington's incinerator project. The gradual reclamation of the salt-water lake will, on the other hand, be a permanent gain to the country.

28. The *Banganivási*, of the 5th December, suggests the following reforms in the administration of the mofussil municipalities:—

- (1) Government should take in its own hands the power of appointing and removing all municipal servants with the view of putting a stop to jobbery, which is freely practised now, and of putting down the highhandedness of municipal employés.
- (2) Municipal employés ought to be frequently transferred from one municipality to another.
- (3) No one who carries on any business or has his dwelling-house within the jurisdiction of a municipality should be appointed to any office under that municipality. This is necessitated by the circumstance that such officers do not generally take any great interest in the work of the municipality for fear lest any of their actions should offend any of their relatives or neighbours.
- (4) All municipalities in which the same set of Commissioners are elected at every election ought to be deprived of the privilege of self-government. For the fact of the same Commissioner being returned every time is a proof that either there is some jobbery at the bottom, or that there is not a sufficiently large number of qualified persons within the jurisdictions of such municipalities fit to become Commissioners.

BANGANIVASI
Dec. 5th, 1890.

29. The same paper earnestly requests the authorities of the Bansberiah Municipality, in the Hoogly district, to revive

A charitable dispensary in the Bansberiah Municipality. the local charitable dispensary, as malaria has broken out very furiously among the inhabitants of the place. The writer does not see any reason why the Bansberiah Municipality should not maintain a charitable dispensary at its own cost, considering that all other second class municipalities have to maintain such institutions at their own expense.

BANGANIVASI.

30. The *Som Prakásh*, of the 8th December, says that in municipal elections Government should allow votes for educational qualifications just as it does for property qualifications, and that such votes should vary in value according to the quality of the education. The vote of an ignorant man should not carry the same weight as that of an educated man.

SOM PRAKASH,
Dec. 8th, 1890.

(f)—Questions affecting the land.

31. The *Bengal Exchange Gazette*, of the 12th December, says that it is desirable that a simpler and easier process of recovering arrears of rent should be substituted for the present troublesome and dilatory process.

Recovery of arrears of rent. Such a process may be provided by empowering zemindars to recover arrears for past years like the rents for the current year by distraining standing and *khamar* crops. Any oppression on the part of the zemindars may be guarded against by providing for the allowance of double the damage sustained by the aggrieved ryot and the prosecution of the zemindar for a false suit and by the restraint of the crops not by common peons but by mohurirs whose travelling expense will be paid by the parties and who will hold a local investigation regarding the justice of the zemindar's claim. If these officers have any doubts about the justice of the zemindar's claim, they should postpone the distraint and wait till the matter has been decided by a law court. Their expenses during this period are to be paid by the party which may be adjudged guilty. Goods should ordinarily be kept for six weeks, but those of a perishable nature should be early disposed of.

BENGAL EXCHANGE
GAZETTE,
Dec. 12th, 1890.

*(g)—Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.*ULUBERIA DARPAH,
Nov. 30th, 1890.

32. The *Uluberia Darpan*, of the 30th November, says that the fact that the portion of the Cuttack road lying between the Uluberia ferry ghât and the local munsifi has become impassable within six months of its repair shows how Government money is spent. The Executive Engineer of the Cossye Division is requested to inspect the road. It is also complained that a breach in the middle of the jetty at the Uluberia ferry ghât is causing great inconvenience to the public.

CHARUVARTA,
Dec. 1st, 1890.

33. The *Chárvártá*, of the 1st December, says that the roads in the village of Sooti to the south of the Gopalpore thana in the Mymensingh district are very narrow and become almost impassable in the rainy season. The old road to Sáliájanir Hatkhola viâ the villages of Sooti and Dutil has not been repaired for a long time. People have constantly to use this road in going to and from the Gopalpore thana and the mart at Nandanpore, but it becomes quite impassable during the rains.

BANGANIVASI,
Dec. 5th, 1890.

34. A correspondent, writing to the *Banganivási*, of the 5th December, says that, while he was travelling from Narayangunge to Mymensingh on the night of the 18th November last, a railway official at the Dacca station attempted to force three or four passengers into the third class compartment in which he was seated although the compartment already contained the maximum number of passengers, namely, eight. On the correspondent's objecting to this, two Railway officials, accompanied by two or three members of the Railway Police, came to the place, and having forced a passenger into the compartment locked it up. It is hoped that the authorities will make an enquiry into the matter.

*(h)—General.*BANGANIVASI,
Dec. 5th, 1890.

35. A Midnapore correspondent of the *Banganivási*, of the 5th December, says that the Legal Remembrancer to Government has done a great injustice to the local bar by appointing one D. N. Dhur, a pleader of some other district, to the Government Pleadership of Midnapore which fell vacant on the death of Rai Bipinbihari Datta, Bahadur, in spite of the recommendation by the District Judge of the names of Babu Bhupan Chandra Mukhopadhyaya and Babu Kartik Chandra Mitra for the post. It will be impossible for a stranger to discharge the duties of the post satisfactorily, considering that these are very multifarious, especially in the Midnapore district, where the number of khas estates and ward estates is very large. It is true the late Rai Bipinbihari Datta, Bahadur, did his work as a Government Pleader very satisfactorily, although he was not a native of the district, but it should be remembered that he passed almpst the whole of his short life in the district.

SAMAYA,
Dec. 5th, 1890.

36. The *Samaya*, of the 5th December, learns from the *Sahayogi* newspaper that the punchayet of Nalchiti has told a local peasant that a contribution of one rupee for every male and of eight annas for every female is to be levied on the occasion of the taking of the ensuing census. Wicked persons often extort money from ignorant people by spreading such false rumours. Government should try to remove this false notion from the public mind.

SAMAYA.

Census work in the Tangail thana,
Mymensingh district.

37. A correspondent of the same paper, writing from Arrakumed in the Tangail thana, in the Mymensingh district, complains of various irregularities in connection with the local census work. The

charge of selecting sub-supervisors and enumerators has been delegated to police sub-inspectors who are in many cases selecting the village putwari with whom they have dealings as supervisor, and respectable and educated Brahmin talukdars, who will refuse to sit on the same seat with the putwari, as enumerators under him. In consequence of this many enumerators intend to throw up their office in disgust. A supervisor has been found unable to explain a particular word used in his circulars of instruction. Ignorant persons, and in some cases persons of whose existence nobody is aware have been appointed enumerators. Many enumerators and some supervisors too are giving ignorant people to understand that a tax will be imposed on their cattle and agricultural implements, and are extorting money from them by promising to state that they possess fewer cattle, &c., than they really possess.

38. The *Pratikár*, of the 5th December, notices with regret the transfer of Mr. Luson from Berham-pore. Transfer of Mr. Luson from Berham-pore. transfer of Mr. Luson from Berhampore, and that just at the time when the important work of the census is about to be taken in hand. The Deputy Magistrates of Berhampore are already overworked. So the Government has acted thoughtlessly in removing an able officer like Mr. Luson from the station before the census operations are over.

PRATIKAR,
Dec. 5th, 1890.

39. The *Bangavási*, of the 6th December, says that notwithstanding Government and technical education. the great interest evinced by Government in technical education, all articles used in Government offices or required in the construction of public works in this country are either imported from England or procured from jails or its own workshops in the country. The native manufacturers, therefore, receive no encouragement from Government. For instance, in Bengal all important wood-work and iron-work required by the Public Works Department are imported from England, and even the few trifles that are not considered worth importing from England are procured from the Seebpore Engineering College Workshop.

BANGAVASI,
Dec. 6th, 1890.

40. The same paper says that the Maharajas of Durbhunga, Dumraon and Bettiah in Behar and the nobility of Bengal have joined in voting a memorial to Sir Steuart Bayley. The proposed memorial in honour of Sir Steuart Bayley. Proof of loyalty indeed! Such memorials are raised in honour of almost every retired Lieutenant-Governor and Governor-General, so it is hard to ascertain how far they serve their true object. But it must be pointed out in this connection that the masses do not comprehend the inscrutable policy of the rulers nor do they join in such demonstrations.

BANGAVASI.

41. A Netrokona correspondent of the *Sanjivani*, of the 6th December, says that the statement made by the Commissioner of the Dacca Division in his last Administration Report, to the effect that during the year under review no work of public utility was executed by any of the zemindars of the Mymensingh district, has caused pain to the public. Baboo Jogendra Kishor Ray of Ramgopalpore alone executed the following works for the good of the people of the district :—

SANJIVANI,
Dec. 6th, 1890.

- (1).—Contribution towards the fund created for the establishment of a technical school.
- (2).—Contribution of Rs. 400 towards the establishment of an Entrance School in Netrokona.
- (3).—Contribution towards the establishment of a Mahomedan Association in the same place.
- (4).—Excavation of a tank in Kaltapara at an expense of about Rs. 1,000.
- (5).—A school is being maintained at a considerable expense.

(6).—A Middle Class English school is being maintained at the house of the zemindar himself.

(7).—A hospital under the supervision of a doctor on a salary of Rs. 55 per month has been maintained at his own house.

Surely the above are works of public utility. The Magistrate, therefore, would have done well to write his report after proper enquiry, when he would have found that the above are not the only works of public utility executed by the zemindars of Mymensingh during the year.

SANJIVANI,
Dec. 6th, 1890.

Complaints from Midnapore.

42. The same paper has received the following complaints from Midnapore :—

(1).—The returns of small lakhiraj property required to be submitted under the Road Cess Act have been ordered to be accompanied by an application written on cartridge paper and stamped with one anna court-fee stamp.

(2).—In consequence, therefore, of the unusual demand for court-fee stamps the vendors are selling them at one anna and a half and even two annas each.

(3).—A fee is being levied for the filing of the return.

(4).—The notice published calling upon the people to submit the returns, is not explicit as to whether returns are to be submitted in the case of lakhiraj properties yielding an annual rent of less than five rupees, and of those mentioned in the fourth part of the returns submitted by the zemindars, though it is clearly laid down in the Act that returns for such properties are not to be submitted. Great inconvenience is, therefore, being caused to the small lakhiraj-holders deriving an annual income of less than five rupees from their property.

(5).—The order requiring the lakhiraj-holders submitting returns to be identified by a mukhtear is causing unnecessary expense on their part. No such identification should be necessary.

(6).—The frequent change of Collectors in that district is causing great inconvenience to the people.

43. The *Dainik-o-Samáchár Chandrika* of the 8th December, says

Return regarding widows and women with husbands in the coming census.

that the arrangement that the number of women with husbands and of widows in a

family may be given at the option of the head of the family in census returns, will practically lead to compulsion in the matter of furnishing such information. It will be no wonder if difficulties occur in the forthcoming census work.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

RUNGPORE DIK PRA-KASH,
Nov. 27th, 1890.

Prospects of the crops in the Rung-pore district.

people of Rungpore expect a very plentiful paddy harvest this year. The jute crop too has been very successful, but the price of jute

is fast falling. Tobacco is selling at a very high price.

HITAKARI,
Nov. 30th, 1890.

Prospects of the crops, &c., in some villages in the Tangail sub-division of the Mymensingh district.

says that the people of the Madanpore station and of the villages within the jurisdiction of the Chakdaha and Harighata thanas, in the

Tangail sub-division of the Mymensingh district, expect to reap an unusually good harvest this year. The price of rice is rapidly falling, but fever is raging violently among the people.

46. The *Rungpore Dikprakash*, of the 4th December, says that great injury is being done to the paddy crop of the Rungpore district by a sort of insect.

Injury of crops by insects in the Rungpore district.

RUNGPORE DIK
PRAKASH,
Dec. 4th, 1890.

47. A correspondent of the same paper says that the people of Rungpore are just now suffering from a scarcity of milk and vegetables. The scarcity is probably due to the fact that the milkmen and the peasantry of the district are getting lazy and do not take much interest in their work. To encourage these people it is advisable that an annual agricultural exhibition should be held in Rungpore. If efforts are made at once such an exhibition may be held in January next. At Mr. Skrine's request the District Board will no doubt contribute towards the expenses of the undertaking. Besides such an exhibition, fairs on festive occasions may also be organized with the view of improving the agricultural condition of the district.

48. The *Bangavasi*, of the 6th December, says that the people of Jhenidah in the Jessore district are suffering from scarcity. The distress of the people has been aggravated by the occurrence of very frequent thefts in the sub-division.

Condition of the people in the Jhenidah sub-division of the Jessore district.

BANGAVASI,
Dec. 6th, 1890.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

49. The *Bengal Exchange Gazette*, of the 28th November, says that the levy of the income-tax is one of those acts of Government which, while they bring no profit to itself, facilitate the commission of gross oppression on the people. The proceeds of the tax have been quite inconsiderable, while the expenses of its collection have, in the course of the last few years, amounted to some four to five lakhs of rupees. In many places the expenses of collection have been greater than the proceeds. The income-tax should be abolished. The poverty of India is so great that it ought to be exempted from all taxation. Many people in England consider India to be very rich, and on coming out to this country they act on their preconceived notions regarding India's opulence, and thus do great mischief. The present Viceroy is a man of this type. He is now out touring in the country, and the writer is apprehensive lest the costliness of his reception by the people should confirm his notion of India's wealth and make him as unwilling as ever to abolish the income-tax on the ground of the poverty of the people.

50. The *Sudhakar*, of the 28th November, has the following :—

Mr. Gladstone and the Turkish Government.

Mr. Gladstone has been all his life an enemy of the Turkish Empire. It has been as it were the aim of his life to find defects in the Turkish Government, and to hold up a distorted picture of it before the world. Anything that the Sultan does is sure to meet with a hostile criticism from Mr. Gladstone. It is strange that the old ex-Premier of England, while he tolerates the most inhuman oppression of the Jews by the Czar of Russia, should characterize the Sultan of Turkey as a tyrant for his attempts to put down the most dangerous conspiracies of the Armenian Christians against his Government and even against his life.

51. The same paper says that the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* is trying in vain to prove that the *Sudhakar* is a disloyal paper. It is the organ of a community which has always been loyal to the British Government, has always sung its praise, has always been on its side, has always desired the consolidation of its authority, and has always stoutly protested

The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* and the *Sudhakar*.

BENGAL EXCHANGE
GAZETTE,
Nov. 28th, 1890.

SUDHAKAR,
Nov. 28th, 1890.

SUDHAKAR.

against the attempts of the National Congress at curtailing its powers. No one in his senses will believe that a paper like the *Sudhákar* will ever do any injury to the Government.

SUDHAKAR,
Nov. 28th, 1890.

52. The same paper has the following:—Who can say that the National Congress is not the outcome of that high education in India which, in Europe and

America, has given birth to the revolutionary sects of Nihilists, Socialists and Fenians? Who can say that it is not the manifestation of that overwhelmingly powerful force which destroyed royalty in France, built up republicanism in Switzerland and other small countries of Europe, kept Russia, Germany, Austria and England in a state of constant unrest, hurled down Dom Pedro of Brazil from his throne, and is every moment threatening to consume Portugal? In spite of the modest professions of its leaders as to the constitutional character of the movement, there can be no doubt but that its true purpose and object are of a very serious nature. Government may now, indeed, neglect to take any notice of it as being nothing more than a mere child's play; but it will find, as time goes on, that this child's play will have developed itself into a game in which the very foundations of the British Empire in India will be seriously imperilled. The Congress of the present day is, to be sure, a mere sprout, but everybody should note that this sprout will in time grow up to be a mighty tree, which will, with its far spreading branches, prove a serious danger to the British power in this country.

The Congressists are loudly proclaiming to the world the proposal made by some Mahomedan youths to place their personal services at the disposal of the Mahomedan delegates to the next Congress meeting. There is nothing to be wondered at in this perversity of a handful of Mahomedan youths. Considering that even thieves and murderers find men to sympathise with them in their wicked deeds, it is no wonder that the Congressists will find supporters among the Mahomedans. But such Mahomedan supporters of the Congress are generally men whose very existence is unknown to the Mahomedan community in general.

The writer warns the Mahomedans of Bengal not to have anything to do with the Congress.

HITAKARI,
Nov. 30th, 1890.

53. The *Hitakari*, of the 30th November, says that with the object of reconciling the differences which have of late frequently taken place between two sections of the Mahomedan community, as to the

relative merits of the two doctrines of *Rafadayen* and *Adamrafa*, a meeting will be held in Tangail at which learned Maulavis from Dehli, Lucknow and other centers of Mahomedan learning will be present. Those doctrines have lately given rise to frequent quarrels, especially among the Mahomedans of Eastern Bengal.

HITAKARI

Wolves in a village in the Nuddea district, and the Arms Act.

54. A correspondent of the same paper says that the village of Alampore, within the jurisdiction of the Bhadalia thana in the Nuddea district, has for some time past been infested with wolves. Nevertheless, several applications made by the villagers for licenses for the possession of firearms have been rejected. It is difficult to make out why Government should refuse such a meek and innocent class of men as the Bengalis the permission to possess firearms when their very life and property are in danger.

ULUBERIA DARPARAN,
Nov. 30th, 1890.

55. The *Uluberia Darpan*, of the 30th November, asks the Sub-divisional Officer of Uluberia and the Civil Surgeon of Howrah to enquire into the truth of the rumour that the Medical Officer of Uluberia took Rs. 20 from the relatives of the son of the late respected talukdar, Babu Paran Chandra

Ghosh, of Chandbhag, who had committed suicide, as a condition of his dissecting the dead body and not allowing the Domes to touch it. The Medical Officer is said to have done this in spite of a previous decision of the Sub-divisional Officer that no such fee could be charged.

56. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 2nd December, says that Hindus need have no fear that Government will alter their marriage laws at the instance of

The age of consent. Mr. Malabari and his English friends. Cases like that of Hari Mohan Maiti are very rare, and the custom of early marriage is not responsible for their occurrence. There is therefore no necessity for altering the existing law. And any law which Government may pass with the object of preventing cohabitation with girls before puberty will, for obvious reasons, remain a dead-letter. Such a law will only afford greater facilities to the police for committing oppression. But as the abduction of girls, both married and unmarried, of upwards of ten years of age is frequently heard of, and as persons guilty of the offence often escape punishment by pleading the consent of the girls abducted, it is desirable that the age of consent should, for cases of that nature, be raised from 10 to 14. Such an alteration of section 375 of the Penal Code will meet with the approval of the Hindu community.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Dec. 2nd, 1890.

57. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandriká*, of the 2nd December, while English education and the people of India. on the subject of the injury done to India by English trade, says that if the Indians had understood the true aim of English policy in

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Dec. 2nd, 1890.

this country, they would not certainly have hailed English education as a boon. The object of the English in founding their empire in India is simply to further their trade with this country. And it is the same object that has led them to confer English education on its people, for without such education English trade could not possibly flourish in India. History bears testimony to this. Centuries ago, when the English first came to trade in the East, they brought with them only five ships containing merchandise worth not more than three lakhs of rupees. In 1834, the year in which English education was first introduced in India, the quantity of English merchandise imported into this country was worth two crores of rupees only. Since then, with the progress of that education, India imported English goods worth Rs. 24,08,06,900 in 1874, and at the present time she imports English goods to the value of some thirty or thirty-two crores of rupees.

58. The *Sakti*, of the 2nd December, says that besides those unscrupulous people who surreptitiously publish and

Surreptitious publication of books in Dacca. sell the works of known authors, a class of men has sprung up in Dacca whose trade is doing even greater mischief to authors and publishers. They procure, by the help of pressmen, printers or book-binders, forms of books that are going through the press, and manage to publish spurious editions of them before the genuine editions are ready for the public. Authors and publishers cannot, therefore, be too careful in their choice of presses and book-binders.

SAKTI,
Dec. 2nd, 1890.

59. The *Sahachar*, of the 3rd December, remarks as follows in the course of an article headed "The change of rulers":—

SAHACHAR,
Dec. 3rd, 1890.

Sir Steuart Bayley had the disadvantage of succeeding Sir Rivers Thompson, during whose time quarrels between the different sections and classes of the people broke out for the first time. And instead of attempting to restore good understanding between the quarrelling parties, Sir Rivers, who was a believer in the *divide et impera* doctrine, tried to increase the prevailing differences. He became necessarily unsuccessful as a ruler. In fact, he would have been more respected if he had not accepted the office of

Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. His successor, Sir Steuart Bayley, has held the scales evenly between the different sections of the people, and conciliated the natives of the country by appointing them to Magistracies and Judgeships in the teeth of opposition from the Civilian body, and has been guided solely by a sense of duty in all his acts. He has been greatly helped in the work of administration by his able Chief Secretary, Sir John Edgar. Of course, it is difficult in a country like India, inhabited by people whose interests often clash against each other, to satisfy everybody. Thus, His Honour's decisions in the Durbunga Temple case, as well as in the quarrels between Hindus and Mussalmans on account of cow-slaughter, did not satisfy all parties. But when these things come to be considered in a dispassionate spirit, Sir Steuart Bayley's impartiality in dealing with them will be admitted. Mr. Luson's acts in Magura do not admit of any defence. But they must not be regarded as isolated acts of an individual officer, but as acts more or less connected with the general administrative policy of Government, which requires that natives must be repressed and kept in awe of their rulers anyhow. Guilty or innocent, a lot of Bengali peasants cannot be permitted to oust a band of European indigo-planters from the mofussil. This being the case, it is not proper to throw responsibility on Sir Steuart Bayley for Mr. Luson's acts in Magura. Acts like these will not cease to happen so long as the different sections of the people will quarrel with each other, and so long as men like Mr. Beck will succeed in creating disunion among them. Let the people be united and all oppression over them will cease. All things considered, Sir Steuart Bayley must be admitted to have done his duty. And all Bengal marks her gratitude to the retiring Lieutenant-Governor by invoking blessings on him, and it is hoped that these blessings will be considered by him as his true reward.

A hearty welcome is then accorded to the new Lieutenant-Governor. He is a Civilian of the North-Western Provinces, and, as such, must know that the officials in those provinces are in favour of ruling on the *payle láth, pichhe bát* system. But then the times are changed. India is advancing by leaps and bounds, and no prudent ruler will think of arresting the course of onward movement which is observed in all things. It is hoped therefore that the new ruler will act in accordance with the spirit of the times, and not place himself in antagonism towards the Congress movement. He is assured the help of the public in the work of administration.

Reference is then made to Mr. Mackenzie, who has been appointed Chief Commissioner of Burma. He has done truly good work in Central India, but he is opposed to the political agitation of the present day. He is asked to take his model in the art of ruling either from Metcalfe and Bentinck, who ameliorated the condition of the people over whom they ruled and extorted blessings from them, or from Wellesley and Dalhousie, whose names are chiefly associated with fields of battle red with the blood of human beings and covered with thousands of dead bodies, the tears of spoliated Ranis and the despair of deposed Rajas.

Allusion is next made to Lord Connemara, and the following remarks are made :—His Excellency's shortcomings in private life cannot make people forget the splendid service which he has done to India during a period of famine and distress, and while taking his departure from India he carries with him the blessings of the country over which he lately ruled.

SAHACHAR,
Dec. 3rd, 1890.

60. The same paper refers to Mr. Mackay's speech at the last St. Andrew's Dinner, and observes as follows :—

Mr. Mackay's speech at the last
St. Andrew's Dinner.

The public in this country will be grateful to Mr. Mackay for his speech. The natives

of India ought to cultivate the friendship of the non-official Europeans, for

they are the true friends of this country. Mr. Mackay's statements regarding the desirability of railway extension and the establishment of manufactories in this country for the purpose of developing her resources are then quoted with approbation. Similarly his statements on the subject of the income-tax and the alleged attempts of Lancashire to ruin the growing manufactures of India meet with the approval of the writer. In conclusion, Government is asked to do its best to foster the arts and manufactures of India. The Indians are a loyal people, but a systematic ignoring of their just claims may make them disaffected. The time for ruling the country according to party exigencies in England is gone by. And now that the Congress has appeared and the leaders of the European community in India have commenced to open their mouths, the country should be governed much on the same principles as are observed in the government of the colonies.

The last St. Andrew's Dinner.

61. The *Banganivási*, of the 5th December, has the following:—

Mr. Mackay, presiding at the last St. Andrew's Dinner, said that Lord Lansdowne was not the man to do anything which might offend either his own countrymen or the loyal Mahomedan subjects of Her Majesty. He did not even hesitate to refer sarcastically to Lord Ripon and the self-government scheme and the Ilbert Bill, and plainly characterised the Hindus as disloyal and the Mahomedans as the only loyal subjects of Her Majesty. Does Lord Lansdowne himself subscribe to all that fell from Mr. Mackay at the dinner? Is India then really governed in the interests of the Mahomedans and the Anglo-Indians only, and at the cost of the Hindus?

The merchants assembled at the Dinner expressed a hope to see India covered with a network of railways, as if the existing railway lines were not enough. The lines that have already been laid, though they have no doubt facilitated locomotion, have gradually been depriving the people of their very livelihood. But the British merchants will not be satisfied till the people are actually starved. The guests also expressed sanguine hopes about British trade with India multiplying immensely some fifty years hence. These are very evil forebodings for India indeed.

Perhaps in the whole world there is not another selfish nation like the English. And the assembly which met the other day at the Town Hall did not forget to protest strongly against the income-tax. Mr. Mackay said that the minimum assessable income should be fixed at two thousand rupees, for the cost of living was dearer in this country than in England. This is quite wrong. An Englishman who can hardly manage to keep body and soul together in England on four hundred rupees a month lives here comfortably on an income of two hundred rupees only. And Mr. Mackay's assertion that a native's expenses of living are less than those of a European is fallacious. The difference in expense caused by the difference in the mode of living of Europeans and of natives is made up by the native having to maintain not only himself and wife, as is the practice among Europeans, but also a large number of incapable relatives and dependents.

Mr. Mackay's expression of pity for the poor native clerks is quite inexplicable, when it is remembered that the merchants themselves were the principal agitators in the movement for curtailing the Durga Puja holidays.

Mr. Mackay protested against the proposed factory law. In this respect the mercantile community is at one with the people of the country.

The new factory law has been proposed simply in the interest of the Manchester merchants, and will, if passed, go against the interests of the Indians as well as Englishmen who have factories in this country. It is no wonder, therefore, that the selfish Anglo-Indian merchants should in this case make common cause, even with the natives, in defending their own interests against the attacks of their countrymen.

BANGANIVASI
Dec. 5th, 1890.

BANGANIVASI,
Dec. 5th, 1890.

Malaria in Tribeni in the Hugli
district.

SAMAYA,
Dec. 5th, 1890.

62. The same paper says that malaria has become very prevalent in Tribeni in the Hugli district, and a large number of poor people are dying for want of money required to obtain proper medical advice.

63. The *Samaya*, of the 5th December, says that the administration of Sir Steuart Bayley has satisfied neither natives nor Europeans. The dissatisfaction of the native public may well be inferred from their abstaining from presenting him with addresses on the eve of his departure, and that of the European public was clearly indicated at Saint Andrew's Dinner. It is only his personal friends and *proteges* who are trying to found a memorial of him.

SAMAYA.

64. The same paper says that since the granting on the occasion of the Durga Puja of additional holidays over and above those declared under the Negotiable Instruments Act has been left to the discretion of Government, it is easy to see that those holidays will be allowed for only a few years. Government has acted most unjustly in reducing the Puja holidays to which the poor clerks looked forward so eagerly in the midst of their year's hard drudgery. Government should rather have reduced the Christian holidays. But this is a thing which Government, which is partial to its own religion, will not do.

SAMAYA.

65. The same paper says that Sir Charles Elliott ought not to have spoken at Saint Andrew's Dinner because the officials should always remain neutral in political matters, and because it is impossible for them to please both natives and Europeans whose interests are in many respects conflicting. Sir Charles gave hints at the Dinner of his opposition to the congress, a proceeding whose wisdom may well be doubted. Another noticeable feature of the late Saint Andrew's Dinner was the cold reception accorded to the mention of Sir Steuart Bayley's name. Whatever harm His Honour may have done to natives, he has done no harm to Europeans, and did not deserve such treatment at their hands.

BENGAL EXCHANGE
GAZETTE,
Dec. 5th, 1890.

Some grievances of the people.

66. The *Bengal Exchange Gazette*, of the 5th December, draws the attention of the Viceroy to the scarcity of water in the country during the hot weather, the prevalence of malaria, which has depopulated a large number of places, and the sufferings of the people in consequence of frequent famines, and asks His Excellency to take steps to remove the above grounds of complaint.

BENGAL EXCHANGE
GAZETTE.

Condition of the coolies in the tea-gardens of Assam.

67. The same paper says that the condition of the coolies in the tea-gardens of Assam is becoming worse day by day. According to the Assam Administration Report the coolie law has converted the coolies who have entered into contracts with the planters into so many slaves. What can be a greater blot on the reputation of the English who show so much readiness to ameliorate the condition of slaves in other countries than that they have devised a system of slavery in their own Indian Empire? Will not Government amend the coolie law?

BENGAL EXCHANGE
GAZETTE,
Dec. 6th, 1890.

The impoverishment of India by English trade.

68. The same paper, of the 6th December, says that English traders, such as the Manchester mill-owners, are enriching themselves with Indian money while Indians find it necessary to serve Englishmen for their daily bread. Three-fourths of the income of Indians go to enrich Englishmen.

69. The *Bangavási*, of the 6th December, says that every one except all-wise patriots like Dadabhai Naoraji will admit that foreign trade is ruining India.

Free-trade.

BANGAVASI,
Dec. 6th, 1890

A cursory view of the matter will, no doubt, suggest free competition as the remedy of the evil the country is at present labouring under on account of its foreign trade. But people who believe in this remedy are ignorant of history, are not farsighted, and are quite ignorant of the circumstances of the country. No country in the world, however high in the scale of civilisation, advocates or practises the free-trade principle. Neither Germany nor France nor the United States will allow of British merchandise flowing freely into it. It is foolish to suppose, therefore, that free competition, which even the highly civilised countries of the world find it disadvantageous to themselves, will be beneficial to India, subject as it is to British rule.

70. The same paper says that the Factory Commission has submitted its report to the Government of India. The

The Factory Commission.

Commissioners do not consider it necessary

to shorten the period of work of the adults either male or female. But suggestions have been made for shortening the time of work of children both male and female. The Commission is of opinion that in factories, &c., worked without stoppage, the time of work for the children ought to be limited to six hours daily.

The Commission has suggested fourteen years as the minimum limit of age at which male and female children alike ought to be taken for work into the factories, instead of twelve years, which is considered sufficient by the present factory law. The writer has to make the following remarks on the suggestion of the Commission in this respect :—

(1) The fourteen-year limit is too high, especially for the female children.

(2) The Commission has done wrong in fixing a common age-limit of fourteen years for males and females alike. It has given proof of its total ignorance of the circumstances of the country by coming to the conclusion that native females grow into womanhood after the age of fourteen years, and that males and females have the same physical condition till that age, and are therefore up to that age to be subjected to the same physical laws of labour, &c. It is ludicrous indeed that the Commissioners should consider Indian females as mere girls at the age of fourteen years, though these are known to become mothers at that age. It is true that the males do not attain their youth at the age of twelve or fourteen, and may, therefore, be called boys till that age, and ought to be subjected to more lenient laws of labour than those made for the females of fourteen. Indian boys at the age of fourteen are, mentally and physically, quite distinct beings from the females at that age.

71. The *Sanjivani*, of the 6th December, says that the 36th Native Infantry Regiment of Madras has been disbanded with the view of reducing the standing army.

The reduction of the Madras army. The dismissed soldiers are now begging from door to door. An old subadar of the regiment, who was in great distress, said, that they would have fared much better had they joined in the Mutiny of 1857. Their sons have now been set adrift on the world for the loyalty they themselves showed to the British Government in that time of peril. The assurances given to them that they would be able to spend their days happily in the military service of the British Government have been falsified.

SANJIVANI,
Dec. 6th, 1890.

SANJIVANI.
Dec. 6th, 1890.

72. The same paper has the following:—What business had Mr. Mackay to revile the Bengalis and Lord Ripon at the St. Andrew's Dinner? These

British merchants have become the most determined enemies of India, and are sure to oppose any movement that may be set on foot for the good of her people. Though fattening themselves on India's money, they are yet doing all they can to ruin her. They have indeed become the very pests of the country, and must be removed before the rulers can carry out their good intentions towards the people. It rests, however, with the people themselves to banish these merchants from the country by stopping all transactions with them. The days are gone by when British merchants in this country used to sacrifice their life and property in doing good to the people of the land. The present generation of merchants have conceived such a jealousy of the people that no cheers greeted the mention of Sir Steuart Bayley at the last St. Andrew's Dinner, because His Honour has been friendly to them.

SANJIVANI.

73. The same paper has learnt that cholera has been raging very violently in the Tangail sub-division of the Mymensingh district. It is reported that the disease has carried off about a thousand souls

within a short period from the villages included in the Mirzapore outpost alone. The misery of the people already suffering from the effects of the floods thus knows no bounds. The authorities should see that they are supplied with medical assistance.

DACCA PRAKASH,
Dec. 7th, 1890.

74. The *Dacca Prakásh*, of the 7th December, says that Government is trying to weaken the Congress by taking its influential members into its own service. It has in this way deprived the Congress of the services of Messrs. Tyabjee and Telang, the two most influential members of the Congress in the Bombay Presidency, and it has also employed Munshi Hidayet Bux, the most influential delegate from Dacca to the Congress, on a monthly salary of Rs. 45 to do commissariat work. The writer fears lest Government should thus buy over every member of the Congress, but is consoled by the reflection that this very policy of buying over will make people join the Congress in larger numbers in the hope of obtaining employment.

SOM PRAKASH,
Dec. 8th, 1890.

75. The *Som Prakásh*, of the 8th December, asks whether the coldness with which the mention of Sir Steuart Bayley's name was received at Saint Andrew's Dinner was due to His Honour's alleged intention (*intention*, for he has done no good) of doing good to natives.

BENGAL EXCHANGE
GAZETTE,
Dec. 9th 1890.

76. The *Bengal Exchange Gazette*, of the 9th December, is astonished at the decision of the foremost men in the country to present a farewell address to Sir Steuart Bayley, who has done no good to the people and who has always supported oppressive Civilians, refused to redress the grievances of the Magura ryots at the request of a well-known Anglo-Indian merchant, and indulged in amusements at Darjeeling when the country was flooded and many persons were rendered destitute. It is a curious fact that many of those who are now eager to present Sir Steuart with an address strongly protested against the Calcutta Municipal Bill.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Dec. 9th, 1890.

Sir Steuart Bayley.

77. The *Dainik-o-Samáchár Chandriká*, of the 9th December, has the following on Sir Steuart Bayley:—

Sir Steuart Bayley came after Sir Rivers Thompson, and tried to please the people of Bengal, and what ruler does not try to gain the good opinion of the people over whom he rules? But owing to the defects in the administrative policy of the English, it is beyond the power of any ruler to satisfy the people. And so Sir Steuart would have been unable to fully satisfy

them even if he had been willing to do so. The writer considers him to be the good ruler who does his best to satisfy the people, and he cannot say on oath that Sir Steuart did his best in that way. Rulers who place much reliance on their counsellors have often to share blame for the acts of the latter. Sir Steuart Bayley was, like Sir Rivers Thompson, under the influence of his Secretaries. The Lieutenant-Governors, being themselves Civilians, have to humour the civilian body, and it requires greater firmness of character than was possessed either by Sir Rivers or by Sir Steuart to resist the temptation to fall in with the wishes of that body. Under these circumstances, it will be simply ignoring the truth to say that Sir Steuart always did the right thing. To speak on behalf of the whole country, it must be said that Sir Steuart could not always do what was right and proper. But on a comparison with Sir Rivers, Sir Steuart must be praised. Reference is then made to the memorial meeting in the British Indian Association rooms, and the writer is extremely sorry that those who got up that meeting tried to pose as representatives of Bengal, Behar and Orissa. The same Sir Steuart Bayley who does not recognize the Congress to be a body representing all India, will now accept the address presented to him by the British Indian Association in the name of the whole country ! But this is now the order of the day.

78. A correspondent of the *Kasipore Nibási*, for the 1st fortnight of Scarcity of water at Gaila and Agrahayan, complains of scarcity of water at Kurulia in Backergunge. Gaila in the Backergunj district. Backergunj is a district which remains under water for six months in the year, and remains almost wholly dry for the other six months. Only those at Gaila who live near the canal can easily procure drinking water. Others cannot often obtain it, even for money. The state of things is still worse at Kurulia, a village to the south of Gaila. The water of the famous *beel* of that place, which has no outlet is very foul. The scarcity of water will be removed if a tank is dug by Government at the place. The local zemindar, Babu Ramcharan Siroratna, is prepared to grant land for the excavation of the tank.

KASIPORE NIBASI,
First fortnight of
Agrahayan.

URIYA PAPERS.

79. The death of Munshi Abdul Gani, a notable zemindar of Bhudruck, The death of a leading zemindar in district Balasore, is mourned by all the Native of Balasore. papers of Orissa. He was admittedly a useful member of the Native community, and had done a great deal for the good of the public.

80. The *Utkaldípiká*, of the 15th November, is glad to learn that the The Uriya public and the non-official public of Orissa have contributed National Congress. towards the expenses of the ensuing meeting of the Indian National Congress according to their means. The writer appeals to the public for steady sympathy and continued assistance in the interests of that national institution.

UTKALDIPIKA,
Nov. 15th, 1890.

81. The same paper, of the 22nd November, exhorts the public of Orissa to send 18 delegates, commensurate with The National Congress. the population of that province, i.e. one delegate to each two lakhs of inhabitants, to the ensuing meeting of the Indian National Congress at Calcutta.

UTKALDIPIKA,
Nov. 22nd 1890.

82. All the native papers of Orissa are delighted to find that the Government are in earnest to provide Orissa with a railway, and they express a hope that A railway in Orissa. the completion of survey work may be soon followed up by actual construction of the line thus surveyed.

SAMVADVAHAKA,
Nov. 13th, 1890.

Appointment of Sir Romesh
Chandra Mitra to the Indian Legisla-
tive Council.

could not have been made.

SAMVADVAHAKA,
Nov. 20th, 1890.

83. The *Samvadvahikā*, of the 13th November, approves of the appointment of Sir Romesh Chandra Mitra to the Legislative Council of the Government of India, and remarks that a happier selection

Sir John Edgar.

84. The same paper, of the 20th November, expresses great regret at the near prospect of the retirement of Sir John Edgar than whom a more valuable

officer it would be hard to find in the Civil List of Bengal, and hopes that the rumour of his retirement may prove untrue.

ASSAM PAPERS.

PARIDARSHAK,
Dec. 1st, 1890

An Assam Circular and its opera-
tion in Sylhet.

85. The *Paridarshak*, of the 1st December, says that the circular issued by the Chief Commissioner to the effect that every officer of Government having any connection with the public accounts or the public money should be transferred from one office to another at the end of every seven years, or, if that is found impracticable, he should be granted leave for three months at the end of that period, and a new officer appointed to examine the work performed by him during that period, has its hearty approval. The circular, however, has been a dead-letter in Sylhet. The officers of the description given above, who serve in the Barrack office in Sylhet, have never been transferred since the issue of the circular. The officers serving in that office are frequently allowed leave and their places are generally filled up by junior officers in the same office. It is hard to understand why the object of the circular is thus purposely frustrated by the authorities of the Barrack office. There is the greater need of the circular being strictly enforced in that office, as there is a general belief that there are great irregularities therein in money matters and in the accounts. It is hoped that Rai Priyanath Bandyopadhyaya, Bahadur, who has a reputation of being a very upright and strict officer, will look into the matter. His predecessor was a very idle man, and he had, therefore, to depend to a great extent on his subordinates; but that should not be the case under Babu Priyanath.

PARIDARSHAK.

86. The same paper says that large numbers of prisoners are being taken out of the jails of Assam for employment in the construction of the new hill road which is being made for facilitating the passage of

The employment of prisoners in the construction of a hill road.

troops for the Lushai expedition. A heavy death-rate usually prevails among the prisoners of Assam, and there is no doubt that it will become still heavier in the uncongenial climate of the hills. Many have already died and many more are on the verge of the grave among the prisoner coolies who have been employed on the Telikhali road. The Government has also acted imprudently in placing Basanta Babu, jailer of the Cachar jail, in charge of the prisoners sent to the hills. At all events, the authorities should see that those prisoners are well supplied with food and clothing, and are carefully lodged. By early efforts Government would have been able to collect a large number of hill-men themselves to perform the work; for none but those men should be employed on such tasks. Both the expenditure of Government and the mortality among the labourers would, in that case, have been much smaller.

PARIDARSHAK.

The filling up of the vacant post
of second teacher of the Sunamgunge
school.

87. The same paper has been surprised at the appointment of a graduate, a resident of Dacca, to fill up the vacant post of the second teacher in the Sunamgunge school, in disregard of the claims

of two Sylhet graduates who had also applied for the same. By this appointment the wish of the former Chief Commissioner that Assamese candidates, if qualified, should have preference in the filling up of vacancies in Assam, has been clearly violated.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,
Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 13th December 1890.

